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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China/USSR

DATE DISTR. 24 August 1951

SUBJECT 1. The Soviet 68 Airborne Division, Tientsin
2. Chinese Communist Airborne Groups
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1. Since April 1951 the Soviet 68 Airborne Division has been in Tientsin, training Chinese Communist troops in that area.¹ This division, which is known as a raider division, was originally one of six raider divisions under the command of the Soviet 68 Army Group in the east coastal area of Siberia. In early August the commanding officer of the 68 Division was Major General Ko-fu-su-te (哥伏斯德) (Govstev). In early August the division comprised six paratroop battalions with a total of 120 officers and 2,304 men. There were four companies in each battalion, four platoons in each company, four squads in each platoon and six enlisted men in each squad. The following were supporting elements: Six battalions (sic),² a total of five artillery and engineer companies, and two motor vehicle companies.
2. Before late July two Chinese Communist airborne army groups (sic) had already been organized, one in Tientsin and the other in Manchuria. Each group had three airborne divisions. One of the groups was formed from troops selected from the 4 Field Army alone. Both groups were trained by Soviet airborne troops. One of the groups was sent to North Korea in early July.

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. It is not known whether this is confirmation or duplication of similar information received by another agency.

2. [REDACTED] Comment. Possibly the first part of this sentence should correctly read: "The following were supporting elements of the six battalions:".

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